

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCDCA AND SCETV PRESENT FORUM ON DEBT COLLECTION

Columbia, SC... ...With consumer debt at an all-time high, an increasing number of debt collectors are contacting consumers. Some of these debt collectors are preying on consumers by using illegal collection practices. In an effort to inform consumers and protect them from such practices, the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs and South Carolina Education Television have teamed up to present **“Credit and Debt Collection Forum.”** The forum will explain the limitations of debt collectors, including a discussion of consumers’ legal rights under South Carolina law. **This special program will be airing statewide on your local SCETV channel, Thursday, November 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.**

Forum participants include:

Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston – Administrator, State Department of Consumer Affairs

Donna DeMichael – Director of Consumer Services, State Department of Consumer Affairs

Carri Grube – Staff Attorney, State Department of Consumer Affairs

Senator Mike Fair – R-Greenville

Cindy Liebes – Assistant Regional Director, FTC, Atlanta Office

Gerald Sachs – Attorney, FTC, Atlanta Office

Bill Van Hook – President, First Financial

Schrendria Robinson – Director of Consumer Credit Counseling, Family Service Center of SC

Kimberly Brettelle - Consumer

About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers. Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit www.sconsumer.gov.

Dave Maxfield – Consumer Attorney, Trotter & Maxfield

Sharon Bramlett – Creditor Attorney, McNair Law Firm

John C. Ruoff, Ph.D., Research Director, South Carolina Fair Share

Stephen W. Gunter – President, Accounts Receivable Collections, Inc.

Philip Porter – Lawyer, Consumer Advocate

Mr. Kelly Molony – President, Credit Adjustment Bureau

For more information on debt collection and to receive SCDCA's new brochure "What South Carolina Consumers Need Know About Debt Collection," contact the Public Information & Education Division at 803.734.4190, toll-free at 1.800.922.1594, or online at www.sconsumer.gov.

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